

"X" (Sheet 1)

Joseph Hough
Lt.-Col.,
President, D.C.M.

FINAL ADDRESS BY THE ACCUSED

Handwritten signature
Sir, I would like, if possible, to get transferred to the Paratroops and get overseas.

Q.43 Is that all you have to say?

A.43 Well, sir, I would like Major Hough to speak for me.

Major A. J. B. Hough, No. 12 District Depot, C.A., addresses the Court as follows:

Sir, the accused states that after enlisting in the Army in 1939 he was unable to proceed overseas with his unit due to a knee injury. He fell in with some evil companions and they persuaded him to take part in a civil crime at Weyburn, for which he subsequently received six months imprisonment in the Moosomin Jail for breaking and entering.

He was thrown in with further thieves and pilferers, and on his release he was convinced that crime was an easy way in which to make money; and with other companions he took part in another crime at Moose Jaw, for which he received two years and six months imprisonment in the Prince Albert Penitentiary for robbery with violence. He states that during the latter imprisonment he determined to make good. He saw that crime does not pay and he was determined that on his release he would make a go of things.

Consequently, when he was released in January of 1943, with the maximum reduction for good behavior, he applied for enlistment and was consequently enlisted into the Canadian Army. At this point it might be mentioned that he states that prior to the offence at Weyburn he was never in trouble with the civil police; and further, that during the first period of his service his conduct sheet was clean.

After enlisting in the Army he states that he ran into former associates--people that he formerly had been living with in the Prince Albert Penitentiary--and that these individuals used considerable pressure to have him take part in further crimes. It was in an effort to get away from them that he went absent the first time, within twelve days of his enlistment in the Army; and I believe there are two subsequent offences, for both of which he was punished.